S3605-2

Maryland Monthly Labor Review

OCTOBER, 1993

Maryland Department of Economic and Employment Development
Office of Labor Market Analysis and Information
1100 North Eutaw Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21201

William Donald Schaefer, Governor
Mark L. Wasserman, Secretary

LABOR FORCE DEVELOPMENTS BY PLACE OF RESIDENCE

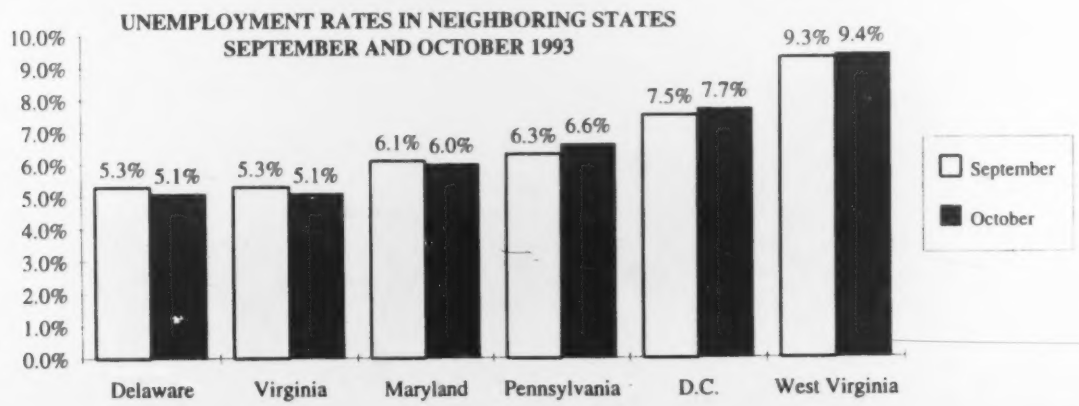
Maryland's unemployment rate maintained its downward trend in October, falling for the second consecutive month, as the labor market continued to benefit from the "back to school" movement. Rising employment helped to drop the statewide jobless rate down a notch to 6.0 percent in October. Last October, a slightly higher rate of 6.2 percent was reported. Nationally, the jobless rate also ebbed slightly, from 6.4 percent to 6.3 percent.

During October, both the labor force and employment levels rose to record highs for the month. Just over 6,100 persons entered the labor market, elevating the total jobseeker count to 2,642,328. Employment, expanding at a slightly higher rate, advanced by 9,830 to 2,484,204. This gain helped to lighten the unemployment rolls by almost 3,700 persons and reduce the jobless count to 158,124 in October—its lowest level in the past five months.

While unemployment normally declines during October, the withdrawal of workers from the job market is commonly the driving force behind this reduction. This year's movement, however, resulted from expansion—a pattern unmatched since 1988. While much of this expansion can be tied to workers returning to their jobs in the school system, other areas of hiring also contributed to the employment potential during October. Temporary help agencies provided jobseekers with an ample source of opportunities.

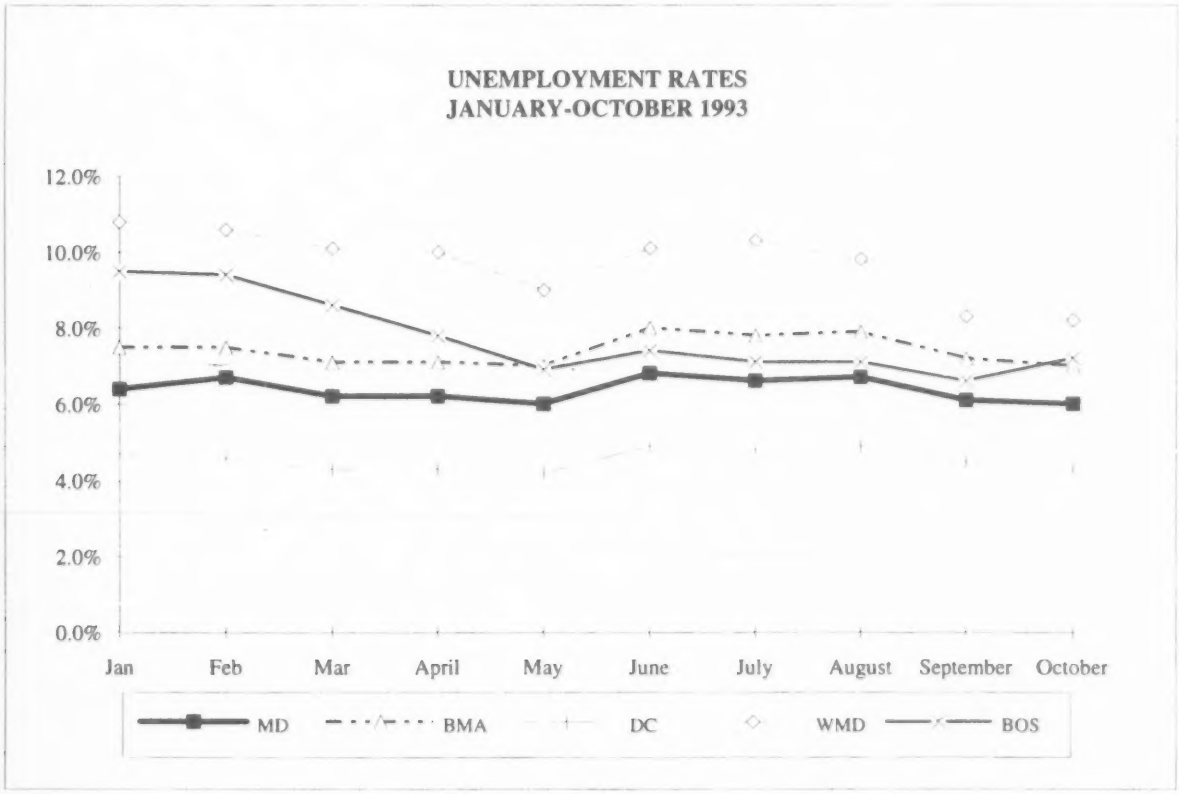
	October 1993	September 1993	October 1992	September 1992
(Data not seasonally adjusted)				
Civilian Labor Force	2,642,328	2,636,184	2,608,995	2,642,260
Total Employment	2,484,204	2,474,375	2,447,858	2,469,990
Total Unemployment	158,124	161,809	161,137	172,270
Unemployment Rate	6.0	6.1	6.2	6.5
National Unemployment Rate	6.3	6.4	6.8	7.2

During October, unemployment trends across the region were mixed, with jobless rates rising in D.C., Pennsylvania, and West Virginia and falling in the remaining three states. Jobless rates in Delaware and Virginia continued to run neck and neck, each falling by 0.2 percentage points to 5.1 percent in October.



TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT - MARYLAND AND REGIONS

	OCTOBER 1993		SEPTEMBER 1993	
	NUMBER	RATE	NUMBER	RATE
MARYLAND	158,124	6.0	161,809	6.1
BALTIMORE METROPOLITAN AREA	86,192	7.0	89,404	7.2
MARYLAND'S D.C. SUBURBS	46,119	4.3	47,663	4.5
WESTERN MARYLAND	9,254	8.2	9,343	8.3
BALANCE OF STATE	16,558	7.2	15,401	6.6



REGIONAL ECONOMICS

BALTIMORE METROPOLITAN AREA

With about 3,200 fewer persons counted among the unemployed, the jobless rate in the region moved down from 7.2 percent in September to 7.0 percent in October. Unemployment rates were lower throughout the region with the exception of Harford County where employment growth was canceled out by a much higher labor force gain, causing the jobless rate to inch up slightly from 6.0 percent to 6.1 percent. Baltimore City's rate, while holding in the double-digits, dropped by the largest margin. In the City, seasonal workers continued to exit the job market, reducing the pool of jobless workers by just over 1,500 persons and dropping the unemployment from 10.9 percent to 10.4 percent. The BMA's industrial payrolls reacted similarly to those statewide in that seasonal layoffs reduced job counts in a number of private sector industries while, in the public sector, education recalls elevated payrolls.

MARYLAND'S D.C. SUBURBS

In the suburban region, employment moved up by 8,158 persons during October, helping to ease the jobless rate down from 4.5 percent to 4.3 percent. Last year, while both the labor force and employment levels in the region were substantially lower, the jobless count was about 1,000 higher and the rate stood at 4.7 percent. Locally, labor market conditions were relatively low key over the month. The largest movement occurred in Prince George's County where employment advanced to a 1993 high, pushing the jobless rate down from 5.6 percent to 5.3 percent. Jobseekers in the region benefited from recall activity in education and sporadic hiring in the trade, transportation and finance industries.

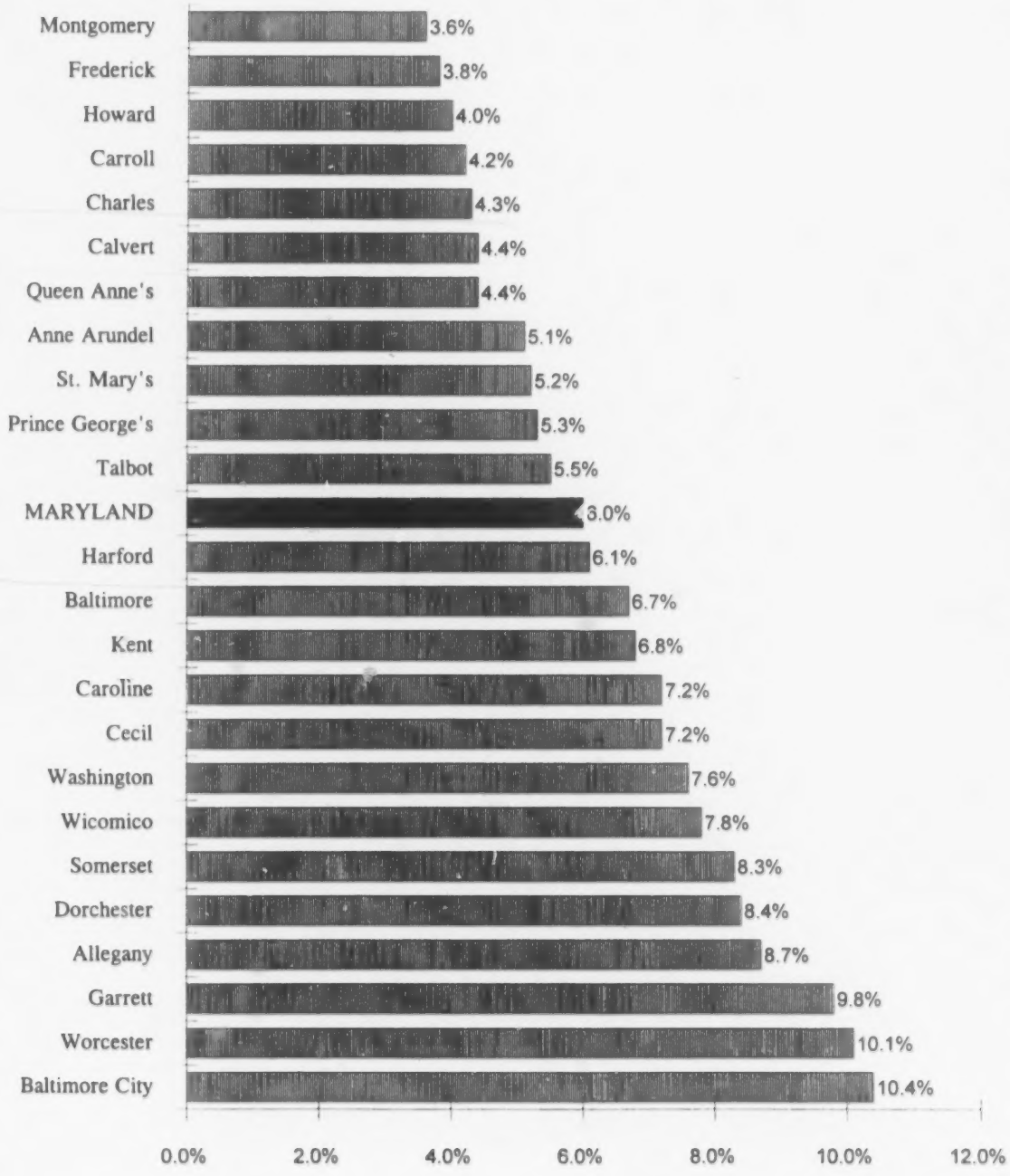
WESTERN MARYLAND

In the tri-county western region, employment advanced by just over 425 persons, a gain which helped to accommodate expansion in the labor force and, at the same time, to cut the number of workers on the unemployment rolls and lower the jobless rate for the third consecutive month. The region's jobless rate, while remaining the highest statewide at 8.2 percent, is currently at its lowest level in two full years. In both Allegany and Washington counties, rising employment was the primary factor responsible for jobless reductions, while, in Garrett, the downward movement in the unemployment rate was effected by a slight shrinkage in the pool of available jobseekers. Unemployment in Garrett, while inching down to 9.8 percent, is almost a full percentage point above its year ago average. At the regional level, about 900 jobs were restored in education during October. This gain, which was supplemented by hiring in construction and business services, helped to uplift industrial payrolls over the month.

BALANCE OF STATE

Seasonal employment declines diminished the regional job market, adding more than 1,100 persons to the unemployment count and raising the jobless rate by 0.6 percentage points to 7.2 percent in October. Locally, unemployment trends were mixed. In a number of counties, seasonal layoffs in food processing industries, a normal occurrence during this time of year, pushed unemployment rates higher. In Dorchester, the permanent layoff of about 100 workers at a manufacturing facility also added to the county's unemployment burden. In Worcester County, the seasonal surge in joblessness continued. While many of the recently unemployed workers from the tourism-related trade and services industries exited the job market, those remaining in the labor market caused the unemployment rate to escalate by more than 4.0 percentage points to a regional high of 10.1 percent in October.

LOCAL UNEMPLOYMENT RATES--OCTOBER 1993



MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND EMPLOYMENT DEVELOPMENT
OFFICE OF LABOR MARKET ANALYSIS AND INFORMATION
1100 NORTH EUTAW STREET
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND 21201

STATE OF MARYLAND
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, AND UNEMPLOYMENT
BY PLACE OF RESIDENCE
OCTOBER 1993

AREA	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE		EMPLOYMENT		UNEMPLOYMENT		UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		
	OCTOBER	SEPTEMBER*	OCTOBER	SEPTEMBER*	OCTOBER	SEPTEMBER*	OCT.	SEPT.*	OCT.1992
MARYLAND	2,642,328	2,636,184	2,484,204	2,474,375	158,124	161,809	6.0	6.1	6.2
BALTIMORE METROPOLITAN AREA	1,238,667	1,237,484	1,152,475	1,148,080	86,192	89,404	7.0	7.2	6.8
BALTIMORE CITY	333,936	334,309	299,144	298,003	34,792	36,306	10.4	10.9	9.9
ANNE ARUNDEL	228,982	228,831	217,267	216,438	11,715	12,393	5.1	5.4	5.0
BALTIMORE	378,730	377,917	353,272	351,924	25,458	25,993	6.7	6.9	6.5
CARROLL	67,628	67,542	64,817	64,570	2,811	2,972	4.2	4.4	4.6
HARFORD	98,868	98,373	92,792	92,439	6,076	5,934	6.1	6.0	7.1
HOWARD	112,717	112,696	108,160	107,747	4,557	4,949	4.0	4.4	3.8
QUEEN ANNE'S	17,807	17,814	17,023	16,958	784	856	4.4	4.8	4.9
D. C. AREA	1,060,375	1,053,761	1,014,256	1,006,098	46,119	47,663	4.3	4.5	4.7
CALVERT	29,461	29,207	28,175	27,948	1,286	1,259	4.4	4.3	5.6
CHARLES	55,831	55,409	53,451	53,021	2,380	2,388	4.3	4.3	5.2
FREDERICK	85,882	85,193	82,636	81,971	3,246	3,222	3.8	3.8	4.7
MONTGOMERY	449,557	446,338	433,575	430,088	15,982	16,250	3.6	3.6	3.7
PRINCE GEORGE'S	439,644	437,614	416,419	413,070	23,225	24,544	5.3	5.6	5.7
WESTERN MARYLAND	112,431	112,091	103,177	102,748	9,254	9,343	8.2	8.3	8.7
ALLEGANY	33,711	33,577	30,780	30,599	2,931	2,978	8.7	8.9	9.4
GARRETT	14,812	14,944	13,357	13,470	1,455	1,474	9.8	9.9	8.9
WASHINGTON	63,908	63,570	59,040	58,679	4,868	4,891	7.6	7.7	8.2
BALANCE OF STATE	230,853	232,849	214,295	217,448	16,558	15,401	7.2	6.6	7.6
CAROLINE	15,188	15,170	14,089	14,096	1,099	1,074	7.2	7.1	6.5
CECIL	39,755	39,555	36,892	36,601	2,863	2,954	7.2	7.5	10.5
DORCHESTER	17,809	17,690	16,306	16,334	1,503	1,356	8.4	7.7	8.4
KENT	10,276	10,405	9,573	9,683	703	722	6.8	6.9	6.9
ST. MARY'S	48,893	48,443	46,373	45,845	2,520	2,598	5.2	5.4	5.5
SOMERSET	13,558	13,565	12,436	12,400	1,122	1,165	8.3	8.6	6.9
TALBOT	18,494	18,282	17,483	17,381	1,011	901	5.5	4.9	5.2
WICOMICO	44,240	43,643	40,798	40,569	3,442	3,074	7.8	7.0	7.6
WORCESTER	22,640	26,096	20,345	24,539	2,295	1,557	10.1	6.0	9.6
UNITED STATES**	128,547,000	127,858,000	120,446,000	119,730,000	8,101,000	8,128,000	6.3	6.4	6.8

*Estimates for the state are revised.
**Source: U. S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics
NOTE: Figures may not add due to rounding. These are estimates relating to the week of the 12th of each month. The count is of persons not jobs. All data are not seasonally adjusted.

INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENTS BY PLACE OF WORK

October's industry movements, for the most part, followed normal patterns, with expansion in education offsetting fall cutbacks in a number of seasonal industries. Public education alone added nearly 11,000 jobs as schools, from elementary to post-secondary, continued to call back employees to round out their staffing for the new school year. The contribution made by education, however, was almost halved by seasonal reductions in the private sector. The net result was the addition of about 5,600 jobs to Maryland payrolls during October.

At the major industry level, employment reductions were the norm in all industries with the exception of transportation and services. In the transportation sector, hiring during October elevated industry payrolls by about 200 jobs. Within the industry, employment patterns were mixed. While upturns were reported in trucking and transportation services, the benefit of these gains was not fully realized due to a reduction of about 300 jobs in water transportation.

The services industry, which normally loses jobs during October, turned in an unexpected performance, adding about 1,500 jobs over the month. While seasonal cutbacks were reported in agricultural services, hotels and amusements, the impact of these declines was downplayed by hiring in other areas. Employment in educational services continued to rise in October as private colleges and universities recalled workers for the fall semester. These gains were complemented by hiring in health services, legal services and at engineering and management firms. The real standout in terms of hiring, however, was business services where demand at temporary help agencies uplifted the industry profile.

The trade industry was the largest contributor on the debit side during October, reporting about 4,600 fewer jobs. The retail component reported the largest losses, with reductions at restaurants outpacing all other trade industries. Over a third of the statewide drop in eating and drinking establishments was centered in the Eastern Shore Area as businesses continued to downsize in response to the drop off in tourist activity. The overall reduction in the trade sector was diminished somewhat by hiring in general merchandise, furniture and food stores.

Elsewhere in the private sector, the job count in the construction trades fell for the second consecutive month, dropping by about 1,300 jobs. Reductions in construction normally occur this time of year since few new projects are initiated because of the approach of cooler weather. October's decline resulted from reported layoffs among general building and special trade contractors.

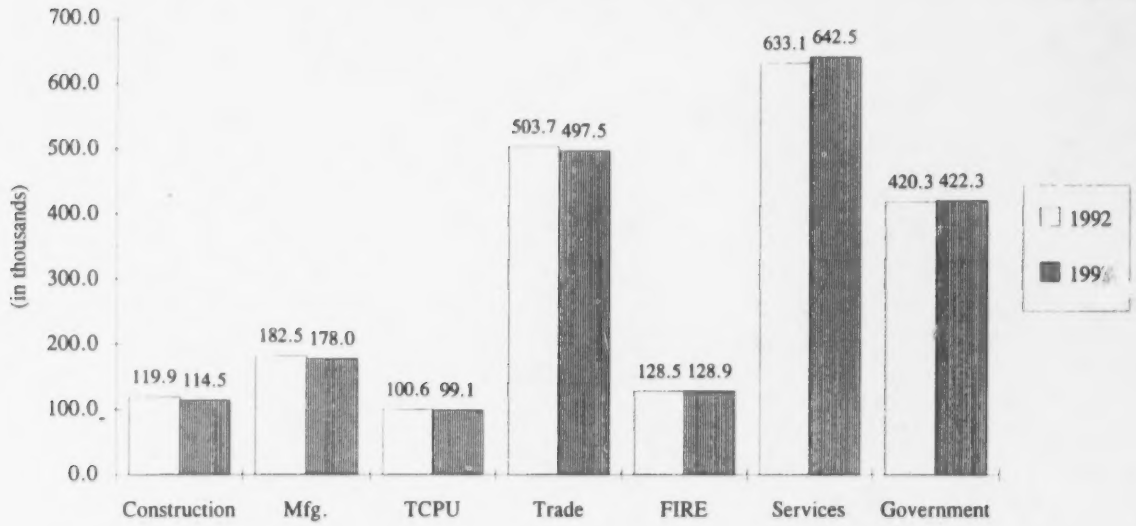
Employment in finance, insurance and real estate dipped by about 300 jobs over the month. While the finance industry continued to add jobs to accommodate the flurry of activity generated by "mortgage refinancing," seasonal layoffs in both the insurance and real estate industries dragged the sector down.

Total manufacturing employment was little changed between September and October as gains nearly offset losses. The most significant movement occurred in food processing where jobs declined by about 400 as seafood and vegetable processing plants began to wind down seasonally. The drop in food processing and some lesser declines elsewhere were, however, scaled back by increases reported in transportation equipment, primary metals, textiles and rubber products.

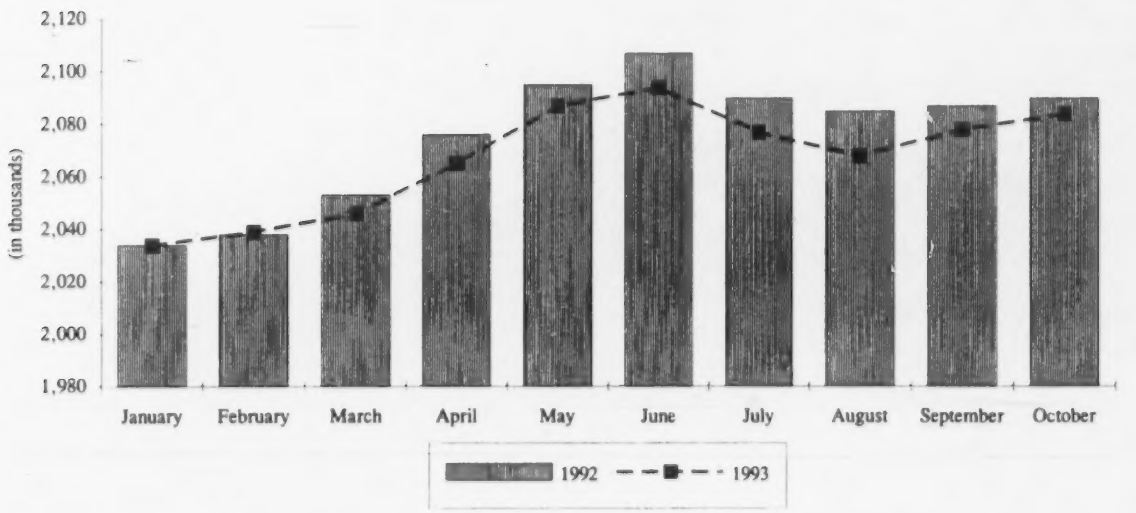
Topside employment in manufacturing did ultimately drop by 200 jobs, however, employers in the industry were able to maintain production schedules by lengthening workweeks by 0.5 of an hour to 41.7 hours in October. This workweek extension helped to raise weekly paychecks by just over $4.00 to $539.60 in spite of a slight drop in hourly payrates.

In durable goods, the workweek held at 42.6 in October while, in nondurable goods, the addition of overtime hours in a number of reporting industries raised the overall workweek by almost a full hour to 40.9 hours. While the workweek in durable goods was maintained, production workers saw their weekly paychecks rise by 8.7 percent due to an hourly pay increase of $0.15. Workers in nondurable goods also received higher weekly paychecks with a lengthening of the workweek compensating for a drop of 1.3 percent in hourly rates.

MARYLAND NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY OCTOBER 1992 AND OCTOBER 1993



TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT JANUARY-OCTOBER 1992 AND 1993



NOTE: Data are not seasonally adjusted.

MARYLAND
NONAGRICULTURAL PAYROLL EMPLOYMENT* BY INDUSTRY
BY PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT
(in thousands)
OCTOBER 1993

Industry	Oct. 1993	Sept.** 1993	Oct. 1992	Percent Change Oct. 1992-Oct. 1993
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	2,084.0	2,078.4	2,089.8	-0.3
Goods Producing	293.7	295.2	303.6	-3.3
Mining	1.2	1.2	1.2	0.0
Construction	114.5	115.8	119.9	-4.5
Heavy Construction	14.8	14.8	14.7	0.7
Manufacturing	178.0	178.2	182.5	-2.5
Durable Goods	86.1	86.1	89.9	-4.2
Lumber & Wood Products	3.3	3.3	3.3	0.0
Stone, Clay, & Glass Products	6.5	6.6	6.6	-1.5
Concrete, Gypsum, Plaster	4.1	4.2	4.2	-2.4
Other Stone, Clay, & Glass	2.4	2.4	2.4	0.0
Primary Metal Industries	8.3	8.2	9.0	-7.8
Blast Furnaces	6.7	6.7	7.4	-9.5
Fabricated Metal Products	8.4	8.5	8.5	-1.2
Fabricated Structural Metal Products	3.2	3.3	3.3	-3.0
Other Fabricated Metal Products (Inc.342,343,345-349)	4.3	4.3	4.3	0.0
Industrial Machinery	14.9	14.9	14.8	0.7
Refrigeration & Service Machinery	2.3	2.2	1.9	21.1
Other Industrial Machinery & Equipment (Inc. 352-357)	8.7	8.8	8.9	-2.2
Electronic Equipment	12.1	12.1	12.8	-5.5
Communications Equipment	4.6	4.6	4.5	2.2
Electronic Component	2.8	2.8	3.1	-9.7
Other Electronic Equipment	4.7	4.7	5.2	-9.6
Transportation Equipment	10.5	10.4	11.7	-10.3
Motor Vehicles	4.8	4.8	4.6	4.3
Other Transportation (Inc. 372-375,379)	3.2	3.2	4.1	-22.0
Instruments & Related	17.2	17.2	18.2	-5.5
Miscellaneous Manufacturing	2.0	2.0	2.1	-4.8
Nondurable Goods	91.9	92.1	92.6	-0.8
Food & Kindred Products	22.5	22.9	23.3	-3.4
Meat Products	5.1	5.2	5.7	-10.5
Beverages	3.9	4.0	3.9	0.0
Other Food & Kindred (Inc. 202-207)	8.7	9.0	8.8	-1.1
Textile Mill, Apparel	9.1	9.0	9.0	1.1
Paper & Allied Products	8.8	8.9	9.0	-2.2
Printing & Publishing	26.7	26.6	26.6	0.4
Chemicals and Allied Products	13.8	13.8	13.8	0.0
Rubber & Miscellaneous Plastics	8.4	8.3	8.5	-1.2

Industry	Oct. 1993	Sept.** 1993	Oct. 1992	Percent Change Oct. 1992-Oct. 1993
Service Producing	1,790.3	1,783.2	1,786.2	0.2
Transportation, Communications & Public Utilities	99.1	99.0	100.6	-1.5
Transportation	55.9	55.7	56.7	-1.4
Railroad Transportation	3.6	3.6	3.7	-2.7
Trucking & Warehousing	27.4	27.3	28.4	-3.5
Communications & Utilities	43.2	43.3	43.9	-1.6
Communications	26.8	26.9	27.5	-2.5
Electric, Gas, Sanitary	16.4	16.4	16.4	0.0
Trade	497.5	502.1	503.7	-1.2
Wholesale Trade	99.7	100.0	103.7	-3.9
Retail Trade	397.8	402.1	400.0	-0.5
Building Materials, Garden Supplies	18.3	18.4	17.4	5.2
General Merchandise Stores	40.6	40.3	40.5	0.2
Food Stores	64.8	64.4	64.7	0.2
Eating & Drinking Places	130.3	136.0	130.1	0.2
Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate	128.9	129.2	128.5	0.3
Finance	59.3	58.8	57.6	3.0
Depository Institutions	40.6	40.5	40.1	1.2
Commercial Banks	26.6	26.8	26.8	-0.7
Insurance	36.7	37.0	37.1	-1.1
Insurance Carriers	24.5	24.6	24.6	-0.4
Real Estate	32.9	33.4	33.8	-2.7
Services	642.5	641.0	633.1	1.5
Business Services	134.5	133.4	131.0	2.7
Health Services	174.9	174.3	171.3	2.1
Hospitals	81.4	81.3	80.5	1.1
Legal Services	15.6	15.5	15.7	-0.6
Educational Services	39.2	36.5	38.3	2.3
Private Colleges, Universities	22.3	20.1	21.6	3.2
Total Government	422.3	411.9	420.3	0.5
Total Federal Government	134.2	134.3	134.8	-0.4
Department of Defense	41.8	41.8	42.9	-2.6
Other Federal Government	92.4	92.5	91.9	0.5
Total State & Local Government	288.1	277.6	285.5	0.9
Total State Government	94.6	92.4	94.2	0.4
State Education	35.0	32.8	34.7	0.9
Other State Government	59.6	59.6	59.5	0.2
Total Local Government	193.5	185.2	191.3	1.2
Local Education	119.0	110.5	116.7	2.0
Other Local Government	74.5	74.7	74.6	-0.1

*The count is of jobs, not workers. It includes full and part-time wage earners employed during pay period including the 12th of the month.

NOTE: Figures may not add to totals due to rounding and exclusion of some SIC's.

Data are not seasonally adjusted.

**Estimates are revised.

Prepared in conjunction with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

NONAGRICULTURAL PAYROLL EMPLOYMENT* BY INDUSTRY
BY PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT
(in thousands)
BY REGION--OCTOBER 1993

Industry	Baltimore Metropolitan Area		Maryland Portion D.C. Suburbs		Western Maryland		Balance of State	
	Oct. 1993	Sept. 1993**	Oct. 1993	Sept. 1993**	Oct. 1993	Sept. 1993**	Oct. 1993	Sept. 1993**
Total Nonagricultural Employment	1,087.5	1,082.2	759.6	756.6	91.6	91.2	144.3	147.8
Goods Producing	162.6	162.9	82.2	82.4	20.7	20.7	29.7	30.1
Mining	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.7	0.7	0.2	0.2
Construction	54.5	54.7	48.8	49.1	4.7	4.6	7.6	7.7
Manufacturing	107.9	108.0	33.2	33.1	15.3	15.4	21.9	22.2
Durable Goods	54.7	54.8	16.1	16.1	6.7	6.7	8.2	8.2
Nondurable Goods	53.2	53.2	17.1	17.0	8.6	8.7	13.7	14.0
Service Producing	924.9	919.3	677.4	674.2	70.9	70.5	114.6	117.7
Transportation, Communications & Public Utilities	54.2	54.1	31.0	31.1	4.9	5.0	8.5	8.6
Trade	250.2	250.3	186.0	186.5	24.0	24.2	37.6	39.9
Wholesale Trade	60.6	60.8	29.2	29.3	4.8	4.8	6.0	6.0
Retail Trade	189.6	189.5	156.8	157.2	19.2	19.4	31.6	33.9
Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate	73.8	73.8	46.6	46.3	3.2	3.2	5.0	5.2
Services	334.3	334.3	244.9	245.8	22.6	22.7	35.4	36.3
Total Government	212.4	206.8	168.9	164.5	16.2	15.4	28.1	27.7
Federal	48.4	48.5	73.7	74.1	1.7	1.8	7.1	7.1
State	66.1	64.6	19.1	16.5	4.9	4.7	6.0	5.7
Local	97.9	93.7	76.1	73.9	9.6	8.9	15.0	14.9

*The count is of jobs, not workers. It includes full and part-time wage earners employed during pay period including the 12th of the month.

**Estimates are revised.

Selected data below the major industry level is available upon request. Estimates are also available for Baltimore City.

Prepared in conjunction with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

NOTE: Data are not seasonally adjusted.

HOURS AND EARNINGS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS IN SELECTED MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES
OCTOBER 1993

Industry	Average Weekly Hours		Average Weekly Earnings		Average Hourly Earnings	
	Oct. 1993	Sept. 1993	Oct. 1993	Sept. 1993	Oct. 1993	Sept. 1993
MARYLAND						
Manufacturing	41.7	41.2	$539.60	$535.19	$12.94	$12.99
Durable Goods	42.6	42.6	590.01	584.90	13.85	13 73
Lumber and Wood Products	40.0	39.2	362.00	358.29	9.05	9.14
Stone, Clay, and Glass Products	44.2	43.4	538.36	519.50	12.18	11.97
Primary Metal Industries	44.7	45.9	796.11	815.64	17.81	17.77
Fabricated Metals	42.8	42.7	499.90	492.33	11.68	11.53
Industrial Machinery	43.0	43.0	611.03	603.29	14.21	14.03
Electronic Equipment	41.8	41.7	494.08	491.23	11.82	11.78
Transportation Equipment	43.5	44.2	756.03	751.40	17.38	17.00
Instruments and Related Products	40.2	40.1	564.81	569.42	14.05	14.20
Miscellaneous Manufacturing Industries	40.5	39.0	409.05	397.80	10.10	10.20
Nondurable Goods	40.9	40.0	499.80	495.20	12.22	12.38
Food and Kindred Products	42.2	41.0	473.91	474.37	11.23	11.57
Textile Mill, Apparel	36.5	36.7	292.37	296.90	8.01	8.09
Paper and Allied Products	42.0	38.3	588.00	545.78	14.00	14.25
Printing and Publishing	39.9	39.6	583.74	576.58	14.63	14.56
Chemicals and Allied Products	42.6	42.6	572.97	575.10	13.45	13.50
Rubber and Plastic Products	41.5	40.5	435.75	437.40	10.50	10.80
BALTIMORE METROPOLITAN AREA						
Manufacturing	41.5	41.2	$561.91	$562.79	$13.54	$13.66
Durable Goods	42.8	42.3	631.73	624.77	14.76	14.77
Nondurable Goods	40.5	40.3	503.82	510.60	12.44	12.67

NOTE: Data are not seasonally adjusted.

UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION

	October 1993	September 1993	October 1992
Initial Claims	17,941	17,550	20,174
Weeks Claimed	151,855	163,557	184,728
First Payments	7,500	6,382	8,469
Final Payments	1,476	1,228	1,800
Weeks Paid	119,211	128,127	150,605
Net Benefit Amount	$21,562,597	$23,218,969	$28,895,402
Average Check Amount	$180.88	$181.22	$180.02

The level of initial filings was little changed in October, rising a mere 2.2 percent to 17,941. While relatively static statewide, regional filings showed much more activity, particularly in the highly seasonal Balance of State Area. During October, initial filings in the Shore Area rose by 46.0 percent to 3,076. Within the region, the Cambridge and Snow Hill offices, in particular, reported quite a bit more activity. In Cambridge, workers on layoff from manufacturing industries added to filings while, in Snow Hill, seasonal workers from tourist-related industries increased the monthly claimsload. These two offices, when combined, accounted for almost 90.0 percent of the regional upswing.

While initial filings rose statewide, the number of both weeks claimed and weeks paid declined over the month, each falling to their lowest level in three years. A drop of about 7.2 percent in the number of weeks claimed lowered October's count to 151,855 while an almost identical percentage decline in the number of weeks paid yielded just over 119,200 payments during the month. The decline in weekly payments reduced the outlay from the Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund by about $1.6 million to $21.6 million in October.

About 6.3 percent of all payments made during October represented first payments while final payments, which rose from 1,228 to 1,476, accounted for 1.2 percent of all payments.

REGIONAL INDICATORS
OCTOBER 1993

	BMA	DC Suburbs	Western Maryland	Balance of State
Initial Claims	8,936	4,151	1,778	3,076
Weeks Claimed	78,550	34,657	8,836	12,926
First Payments	3,898	1,692	447	896
Final Payments	754	327	79	125
Weeks Paid	63,712	28,058	7,269	9,972
Net Benefit Amount	$11,448,594	$5,344,816	$1,169,787	$1,608,542
Average Check Amount	$179.69	$190.49	$160.93	$161.31

Maryland Department of Economic and Employment Development
Office of Labor Market Analysis and Information
1100 North Eutaw Street
Room 601
Baltimore, Maryland 21201

FIRST CLASS MAIL
Postage and Fees Paid
U.S. Department
of Labor
Permit No. G-738

Official Business
Penalty for Private Use $300

0324
Congressional Information Service
Inc.
Att: Louis Gearhart (SRI)
Suite 800
4520 East West Highway
Bethesda, MD 20814

ADDRESS CHANGE:

☐ Remove from mailing list

☐ Change as shown above

Please send any changes to the address in the upper left hand corner.